

A NEW BAHAMIAN *EUPHORBIA* AND SOME NEW COMBINATIONS

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With the project on the Flora of the Bahamian Archipelago nearing completion we find a few loose ends that still need attention. This is one of them.

EUPHORBIA abbreviata Correll, sp. nov.

Frutex crassus brevis dumosus ad 70 cm altus, aliquantum cupreus, dense et grosse ramosus, ramis glabris, typice cum textura dura et rigida. Nodi annui instructi vaginis stipularibus adaxialiter ciliolatis; *internodia primaria* 2–3 mm longa. Folia opposita et solitaria, subsessilia, *carnosa*, integra, glabra, saepe ad nodos fasciculata, *globoso-orbiculata vel breviter oblongo-rectangulata vel anguste cuneato-obovata*, 1–3 mm longa. Cyathia solitaria axillaria, breviter pedunculata, circa 1 mm longa; glandes aliquantum magnae et prominentes ad cyathium proportione, sanguineae vel atrae, saepe contiguae, sine appendiculis. Capsula glabra, circa 2 mm longa, pedicello crasso circa 1 mm longo; semina lactea, levia in uno extremo acuta, circa 1.3 mm longa, ecarunculata angulis rotundatis.

Stout short bushy shrub to about 70 cm tall, somewhat copper-colored, densely and coarsely branched with the branches typically hard-tissued and rigid, glabrous. Nodes annual, provided with stipular sheaths that are ciliate adaxially; primary internodes 2–3 mm long. Leaves opposite and solitary, subsessile, fleshy, entire, glabrous, often clustered at the nodes, globose-orbicular or shortly oblong-rectangular or narrowly cuneate-obovate, 1–3 mm long. Cyathia solitary in the axils, very shortly pedunculate, about 1 mm long; glands rather large and prominent for the cyathium, blood-red or blackish, often contiguous, without appendages. Capsule glabrous, about 2 mm long, supported by a stout pedicel about 1 mm long; seeds white, pointed at one end, smooth, about 1.3 mm long, with rounded angles, ecarunculate.

TYPE COLLECTION: Bahama Islands, Little Inagua, on sandy thinly coppiced slope about saline lake in southwest sector of island, plants 0.7 m tall, coppery-colored, August 12–16, 1975, D. S. Correll 45998 (holotype, NY; isotypes, F, FTG, GH, IJ, K, MO, SMU).

Additional collections: Caicos Islands, Long Cay, northern end, March 7, 1911, C.F. & C.M. Millspaugh 9237 (NY, US); Long Cay, July 28, 1930, Paul Bartsch s. n. (US).

Grisebach, in his Flora of British West Indies, p. 52. 1864, described *Euphorbia vaginulata* from Turks Islands, and it is to this taxon that the presently described species has previously been referred. In my explorations I have collected the rather widespread *E. vaginulata* on Grand Turks Island, throughout Great Inagua, in the Caicos Islands (Pine Cay, Providenciales),

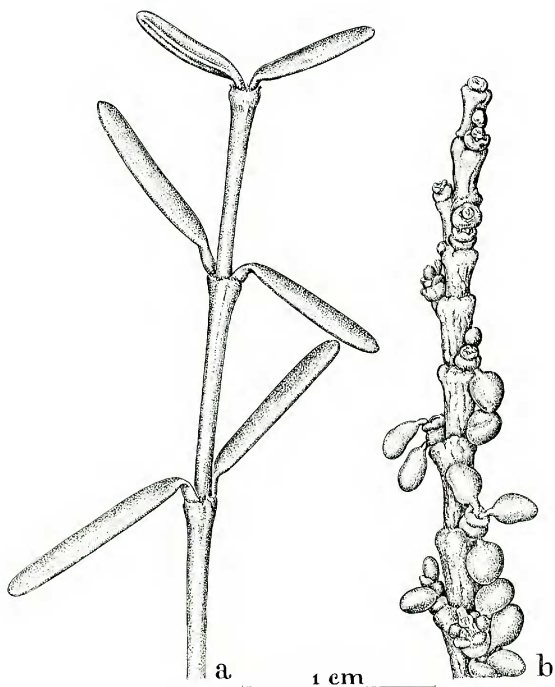


Fig. 1, a, branchlet of *Euphorbia vaginulata*; b, branchlet of *Euphorbia abbreviata*.
Drawn by Priscilla Fawcett.

on Crooked Island and at its extreme northern limit on San Salvador Island. It is a rather slender plant with flexible, "rubbery" branches that produce elongate internodes and linear-oblong leaves.

The presently described species is local in its occurrence. It has a short, stout trunk from which arise rigid thick branches that have much-abbreviated internodes and suborbicular-quadrate to shortly elliptic leaves.

The following transfers are necessary for these plants to be coordinated in our Flora. They mainly represent a difference in taxonomic interpretation.

EUPHORBIA exumensis (Millsp.) Correll, comb. nov.

Chamaesyce exumensis Millsp., Field Mus. Bot. 2: 301. 1909.

C. lechioides var. *exumensis* (Millsp.) Burch, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 53: 92, 99. 1966.

EUPHORBIA proctorii (Burch) Correll, comb. nov.

Chamaesyce proctorii Burch, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 63: 378. 1976.

EUPHORBIA wilsonii (Millsp.) Correll, comb. nov.

Chamaesyce wilsonii Millsp., Field Mus. Bot. 2: 301. 1909.

C. lechioides var. *wilsonii* (Millsp.) Burch, Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 53: 91, 99. 1966.